

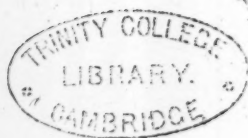
A Great and Wonderful
DISCOVERY,

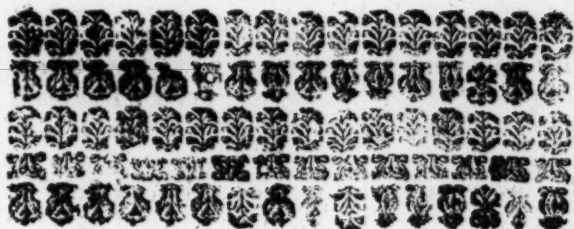
OF

The Bloody Villains, and inhumane Murderers, committed to Newgate and other Places; since that great and lamentable Fire, at Mr. Delann's house in Loatbbury: With the manner how they were apprehended and taken, as they were sharing of their ill-gotten Goods: And a more perfect Relation, touching that strange and lamentable Accident; and those dear Souls that perished in the Flames.



London, Printed for J. Johnson, 1663.





A

Great and wonderful discovery of
of the bloody Villains, and in-
humane murderers, that fired
the House of Mr. Delaunes,
&c.



Mongst the rest of the sad and
lamentable accidents, which
have happened of late years,
none so great and full of asto-
nishment and terrour, as that
which proceeds from the fu-
rious and unspeakable flames
of a fire and vehement fire; Indeed true it is,
many poor souls have too often, been exposed
to the mercyless fury of fiery flames; that have

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hap.

happened several ways. But the late sad and lamentable Accident, which happened in Louthbury is exceeding deplorable the whole Family and all in the house being burnt to Ashes: for they had not been many hours (on Friday night, in Christmas time) in their beds, but the fire brake forth most vehemently, in the lower Rooms, and immediately took hold of the lower Ceilings, and so to the rest, and in such a sad and lamentable manner, that in less then three hours time the whole house was burned down to the ground, and the people in it all perished in the flames, to the unspeakable grief and astonishment not only of their Relations, but of all good Christians in general: Yet great was the good hand and Providence of God, towards a Gentlewoman who being there over night, was importuned to stay but she refused, and went home to Alderman Allens, *A mercy never to be forgotten*: otherwise, who knows, but that this Dear soul might have also Perished in the flames, as to her outward Estate and Condition: But blessed be God for her Deliverance, and the Lord grant she may for ever walk answerably, to the honour and Praise of his great and glorious Name, for so high and signal a mercy: And truly, so great a mercy was it, to the families adjoining likewise that every member thereof ought highly to praise the name of the Lord, and as long as they have a being in this life, to return humble thanks to the great Jehovah, their great & Omnipotent Preserver, who was pleased in great mercy to give a period to those destroying flames. For indeed so great & violent they were, that they seemed

seemed for a while unquenchable; notwithstanding the utmost endeavours of the good People thereabouts, for the allaying of them, who left no means unattempted after it was Discovered,

But it had taken too great a head, to the unspeakable grief of many before it was discernable, and had not providence so decreed, that a Woman (who sat up with a Child that was not well hearing as it were, a greater racking, and fearing that a Villain might be breaking into the house, looked out of a Chamber window, and espied a great light in the Merchants lower Rooms, as if there had been many hundred Candles burning in the Windows: whereupon, though much amazed, she cryed out, Fire, Fire, in so much as the Coffee man looked also out of his Window, and immediately heard the doleful cryes, *Lord have mercy upon us we are all undone*: which was all the words that they were heard speak. This being about two of the Clock on Saturday morning, the 2^d of December. But before three or four, the merciless flames had brought that goodly building for the most part even to dust and ashes, and all that was in it. So violent it was, that it burnt even like fire in an Oven. And had it not been for the great care and vigilancy of the manifold instruments that God was pleased to raise, for the preservation of the adjoining houses: it had undoubtedly made great ruine thereof; but by the unwaried pains of many persons casting great store of water from the other houses upon the fire that burnt up so fiercely, it pleased God at last to allay the flames. & by long

long hooks, and other instruments, Mr. Teryls house and many others were preserved, but not without great damage to many; for so hot were the Brick-wall, both on that and the other side of the way, that the people were faine to cast water thereupon, and to hang wet Blankets, Coverlids, and other things, both upon the out and insides to allay the heat, & to prevent the near approaching dangers; for so sad and dismall a thing is fire that where it breaks forth too violently great calamities there ensues. It is indeed a good Servant but a bad Master; and from such a Ministring Spirit and the fury thereof *Good Lord deliver this City.*

Thus much for the Relation, as it was taken at first: That which further remains, is, A Relation (as it is reported) of the bloody Villains and inhumane Wretches, that were Actors in this sad and lamentable Tragedy: six being taken (as it is said) and carryed to Chelmsford Gaol, being discovered on Friday last near Burntwood; as their quarrelling about sharing of their ill-gotten goods; and 'tis said, that these Villains having got privately into the house took an opportunity, when all was in bed and asleep, to cut the Maids Throats, gag and

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and bind all the rest in their beds, ransack'd the house of all the Moneys and Plate they could find, and afterwards set fire on the house, lock'd the doors, and cast the Key over the Wall. This, if true, is the most barbarous and inhumane Action that was ever heard of; and, no doubt, but a short time will make manifest the truth of all things. For have we not daily experience of many wonderful Discoveries; as that touching the Pewterer, who having got his Maid with Child, pretended to send her into the Countrey; but wickedly designed two Villains to murder her by the way; and leading her into a Wood, and stripping her naked, hung her up by the hair of her head to a Tree, gag'd her, and tyed her hands behind her; in which sad condition, she remained all night; but the next morning, a Drover coming that way, and the Swine ruaning into the Wood, he espied this sad Spectacle, cut her down, and put his Coat about her; which done, he ran
to.

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to the next Town, raised the People, but
she is since dead, and the Conspirators ta-
ken, and committed to Newgate.

FINIS.

